

Student Voices

THE fact that the Central Intelligence Agency has been financing the National Student Association should be applauded, not condemned. Presidents Truman, Eisenhower, Kennedy and Johnson did the right thing by going along with it and keeping quiet about it.

The financial support the association was receiving was being put to excellent use. It helped to offset the massive Communist effort to control and propagandize the world student movement. It helped American student delegates make a good representation at international conferences, forums and rallies. It gave us a voice with which to argue against Communist cajolery among youth groups.

Unfortunately this secret operation has now been disclosed in a way that makes it appear unsavory, and so it has been halted.

Very well, let some other agency quietly pick up the tab. Communist loudspeakers must be answered with something stronger than an apologetic whisper.

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CIA Doing Its Job

Home-grown lefties are in a gusty flap because the Central Intelligence Agency has disbursed funds to several youth organizations to represent American position in foreign student gatherings, which are always heavily impregnated with subsidized Communist fronts.

The CIA is just doing its job in trying to counter Red propagandists at international youth gatherings. The future of the world—whether it can still nurture liberty or be chained to Communism—is in the hands of the new generation.

Instead of emotionally flogging this CIA policy, citizens should pat the agency on the back for seeking to offset unceasing Red efforts to make the world over for Marx.

But that's not the way of the ultra liberals, usually willing at the drop of a left-wing to let fly at almost any anti-Red move.

Is the United States to abstain from fostering American purpose, policy and the democratic way in international meetings? Should we miss the boat because earnest, pro-American youth haven't the funds to pay their own way to these conclaves?

Such organizations should be subsidized to the extent of sending representatives to these

conferences and adequately preparing presentations, contra the Communist doxology.

If there could be any legitimate caviling about the program, perhaps it is because it was found advisable to spend the funds secretly. We don't like government secrecy.

But if it weren't for the leftist cabal, probably the State Department would have taken care of the chore openly. Possibly it should anyhow.

Certainly the job demands doing. Russia and other Red states must not be allowed to clobber us around the world through student organizations. The government would be remiss if it took no counter measures.

The current furor comes largely from those who have long sought to destroy the CIA. This valuable agency, however, is merely a whipping boy. CIA could not take such action on its own responsibility. It moves only after approval at the highest levels of government—the White House, State and Defense Departments.

Instead of developing headline palpitations over helping conscientious youth tell our story to the world, it would be better to mount a background investigation of the Ramparts magazine outfit, which was at the bottom of this overblown story.